

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation comprising ~~the steps of:~~

automatically determining at least an available user information entry device in communication with the workstation;

determining user authorisation methods each requiring data only from available user information entry devices from a plurality of user authorisation methods;

providing user authorisation information in accordance with one of the determined user authorisation methods; and,

registering the user authorisation information provided against stored data to perform at least one of identifying and authorising the user.

2. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least an available user information entry device includes a plurality of available user information entry devices.

3. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 2 comprising ~~the step of:~~

selecting from the determined user authorisation methods the one method wherein the provided user authorisation information is provided in accordance with the selected one method.

4. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 2— 3 comprising ~~the steps of:~~

providing to the user a list of the determined user authorisation methods wherein

~~the step of~~ selecting from the determined user authorization methods the one method comprises ~~the step of~~ the user selecting from the provided list, a single user authorisation method.

5. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 4 comprising ~~the step of~~:

determining security information associated with the user and with the selected user authorisation method, the security information different for different user authorisation methods.

6. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 3 wherein each user authorisation method is associated with a security level and wherein ~~the step of~~ registering the user authorisation information is performed to perform at least one of identifying and authorising the user within the associated level of security.

7. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 1 wherein each determined method is supported absent further installation of software components.

8. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 1 comprising ~~the step of~~ retrieving a security key from a key storage location in dependence upon the registration.

9. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 8 wherein the security key is an encryption key.

10. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 8 wherein the security key is a password.

11. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 1 comprising ~~the steps of~~:

at intervals prompting an individual using the workstation to provide user authorisation information; and,

registering the user authorisation information provided against stored data to perform one of providing access to ~~[[the]]~~ secured data and denying access to the secured data in dependence upon the registration results.

12. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 1 comprising ~~the steps of~~:

upon access to secured data prompting an individual using the workstation to provide user authorisation information; and,

registering the user authorisation information provided against stored data in accordance with a user authorisation method to perform one of providing access to the secured data and denying access to the secured data in dependence upon the registration results.

13. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation comprising ~~the steps of~~:

providing a plurality of supported user authorisation methods and associated security levels for each user authorisation method;

providing user authorisation information to the workstation;

determining from the plurality of supported user authorisation methods an authorisation method requiring data only from the provided user authorisation information; and

registering the user authorisation information provided against stored data to perform at least one of identifying and authorising the user with the associated level of security.

14. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 13 comprising ~~the step of~~:

selecting from the provided user authorisation methods a method wherein the provided user authorisation information is provided in accordance with the selected method.

15. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 14 comprising ~~the steps of~~:

at intervals prompting an individual using the workstation to provide user authorisation information according to the selected method; and,

registering the user authorisation information provided against stored data to perform one of providing access to ~~[[the]]~~ secured data and denying access to the secured data in dependence upon the registration results.

16. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 13 comprising ~~the step of~~:

determining security information associated with the user and the security level, the security information different for different user authorisation methods.

17. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 16 wherein ~~the step of~~ determining security information comprises: ~~the step of~~ retrieving a security key from a key storage location in dependence upon the registration.

18. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 17 wherein the security key is an encryption key.

19. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 17 wherein the security key is a password.

20. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 13 comprising ~~the steps of~~:

upon initiating access to secured data prompting an individual using the workstation to provide user authorisation information; and,

registering the user authorisation information provided against stored data in accordance with a user authorisation method to perform one of providing access to the secured data and denying access to the secured data in dependence upon the registration results.

21. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation comprising ~~the steps of~~:

providing a plurality of user authorisation methods, some user authorisation methods requiring user authorisation information from more than one data input device;

providing user authorisation information;

registering the provided user authorisation information against data stored in a database of user authorisation data;

when the data matches the stored data within predetermined limits, determining a security level for the individual in dependence upon the provided user authorisation information and the plurality of user authorisation methods; and,

authorising user access within limits based upon determined security level.

22. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 21 wherein user access is limited by limiting access to security keys based on the determined security level.

23. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 22 wherein the security keys include encryption keys.

24. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 23 wherein the security keys are stored within a portable storage medium.

25. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 24 wherein access to some security keys is provided when a user is authorised according to a method of user authorisation but is denied when a user is authorised according to another method of user authorisation.

26. (original) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 22 wherein the security keys include passwords.

27. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 21 comprising ~~the steps of:~~

selecting a user authorisation method from the plurality of user authorisation methods during execution; and,

providing user authorisation information in accordance with the selected user authorisation method.

28. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 21 comprising ~~the steps of:~~

automatically determining a presence or absence of user information entry devices in communication with the workstation, the user information entry devices including a keyboard, a card reader, and a biometric input device; and,

determining user authorisation methods from the plurality of user authorisation methods that require data only from user information entry devices which are present.

29. (currently amended) A method of authorising a user in communication with a workstation as defined in claim 28 comprising ~~the steps of:~~

selecting a user authorisation method from the plurality of determined user authorisation methods; and,

providing user authorisation information in accordance with the selected user authorisation method.